

**Town Hall
Upper Marlboro, Maryland**



Board of Town Commissioners

Steve Sonnett, President
Joe Hourclé, Jim Storey

THE TOWN HALL IS OPEN WEEKDAYS

Monday–Friday: 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Contact Town Hall at:

(office) 301-627-6905

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OR VISIT US ONLINE AT:

www.uppermarlboromd.gov

Town of Upper Marlboro
14211 School Lane
Upper Marlboro, MD 20772



Please Brake for
Ghosts & Goblins!

Welcome to *Landings* . . .

A monthly newsletter from the Town of Upper Marlboro



Several Area Sites to be Part of the Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail in Maryland

by M. David Williams, *Town Clerk*

Information compiled from the *draft water trail plan* by the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission

The Star-Spangled Banner National Historic Trail is a 290-mile land and water route that traces the major events of the Chesapeake Campaign of the War of 1812. More than 600 sites associated with the war remain throughout Maryland, many on the Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries.

Local sites such as **Hills Bridge**, **Pig Point**, **Jug Bay** and the **Compton-Bassett House** are expected to be visited by tourists traveling the “water trail” in small craft, canoe or kayak. The plan is to be funded by the Chesapeake Bay Gateways Network (Gateways Network) and the Maryland Office of Tourism Development (OTD), and coordinated by the Maryland War of 1812 Bicentennial Commission. A total of \$637,000 will be directed to these area sites to install small craft landing/launch sites, canoe and kayak rental facilities and connecting land trails.

The Hills Bridge/Pig Point project area is notable as the location where Commodore Joshua Barney ordered the **U.S. Chesapeake Flotilla** scuttled on August 22, 1814. The river is narrow here and largely free of motorized boat traffic, offering one of the best paddling experiences on the Patuxent River.

Maryland suffered more raids, skirmishes and battles than any other state. It was the site of one of the most dramatic and pivotal events of the war, the Battle for Baltimore, which produced two of our most important national icons, a flag and an anthem. The Chesapeake Campaign of 1814 would turn out to be the only time in American history when a foreign power invaded the nation’s capital. Two military maneuvers comprise the campaign: the attack on Washington (including the Battle of Bladensburg;

the burning of the White House, the Capitol and other public buildings) as well as diversionary feints; and the Battle for Baltimore.

American Commodore Joshua Barney and the U.S. Chesapeake Flotilla responded to the threat by sailing from Baltimore toward Tangier Island on the Chesapeake Bay where the British had a naval base. Near the mouth of the Potomac River, Barney encountered superior British forces and, after a brief engagement known as the Battle of Cedar Point, moved back into the relative safety of the **Patuxent River** and then St. Leonard Creek. The British then attacked in early June 1814 in the First Battle of St. Leonard Creek but could not displace Barney’s flotilla.

The British tried to draw out Barney by attacking civilians in raids along the Patuxent, taking livestock, goods and tobacco and burning barns, warehouses, public buildings and plantations. The Americans responded with a coordinated attack in the Second Battle of St. Leonard Creek. Barney was able to escape up the Patuxent, but the British managed to continue their blockade of the Flotilla within the Patuxent. Furthermore, they could now use their pursuit of the Flotilla as pretext of their real objective, the capture of the capital.

In July 1814, the British attacked along three points, sailing up the Patuxent and landing forces at Benedict to march to Washington. Meanwhile, a smaller British squadron entered the Potomac to confuse the Americans into thinking it was the primary threat, and a second feint sailed north of Baltimore to raid the upper Chesapeake and further confuse and divert American forces.

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Notices to Serve Community

In the coming months you might see evidence of the Town’s recent efforts to address those eyesores such as knee-high grass, abandoned cars and trash containers left at curbside. Our Police Department and Public Works crew will be leaving “friendly reminders” warning property owners of Town Ordinance and County Code violations. The Town would prefer that property owners who receive a notice, remedy the particular problem before any citations have to be issued. The Town hopes that the notices will assist our residents in keeping with the policies and procedures involved in our residential trash and recycling programs, as well as, the County’s code and property standards.

Below is a list of the checklist items featured on the notices.

<ul style="list-style-type: none">Residential trash, bulk items and yard waste is collected on Mondays ONLY (please have items out at the curbside by 8:00 a.m.— not in the street please).Recycling materials are collected on Thursdays (recyclables will not be picked up if they are not in a County approved recycling bin).Residential trash, bulk items and/or yard waste placed in recycling bins will not be picked up.Please do not leave trash and/or	<p>recycling containers out at curbside in excess of 12 hours prior to, or after, the scheduled weekly pick up time.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Inappropriate, defective or broken trash receptacle.Residential trash has been mixed in with bulk and/or yard waste items. Please separate into 3 distinct piles, at least 2–3 feet apart.Vehicle left unattended on public property for more than 48 hours.Abandoned vehicle left unattended	<p>on private property for more than 48 hours (deemed inoperable, and/or, not displaying current registration plates).</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">Structures, bushes or trees obstructing the view of oncoming traffic (vehicular and/or pedestrian).Obstruction and/or blockage of the free flow of traffic (vehicular and/or pedestrian).Grass/weeds exceeding 10 inches in height.Grass/weeds in curb, sidewalk and/or gutter.
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Historic Trail, continued from other side

More than 4,300 British troops departed ships at Benedict and advanced to Washington, which was largely undefended. Meanwhile, smaller British vessels pursued Barney’s flotilla. Threatened by the British, Barney destroyed his flotilla above Pig Point under orders from the Secretary of the U.S. Navy, and marched his men to join the American army in the defense of Washington.

The British then advanced toward Bladensburg and proceeded into Washington, where they burned many public buildings, including the White House and the Capitol. The government fled the city and American troops retreated toward Baltimore along many routes.

The British returned to Benedict and their ships to launch an attack on Baltimore. As the troops marched through **Upper Marlboro**, several deserters began looting farms. **Dr. William Beanes**, a local citizen, and others arrested and jailed the deserters, but the British returned to arrest Beanes and the others, holding them in exchange for British prisoners. The British held Beanes, as the leader, aboard the HMS *Tonnant* and released the rest.

An attorney for the District of Columbia, **Francis Scott Key**, sought Beanes’ release as a violation of the rules of war. Key and John Stuart Skinner, U.S. agent for exchange of prisoners, boarded a truce ship to meet with officers

Be a Part of Your Town’s History . . .

Our Town Clerk, David Williams, serves on the governing board of the Anacostia Trails Heritage Area (ATHA), representing the Berwyn Heights Historical Committee. ATHA is funded by the Maryland Heritage Areas Authority (MHAA) which will be a major player in the War of 1812 anniversary events.

Mr. Williams has offered to share what knowledge and contacts he acquires from the numerous upcoming meetings and tours. He and the Commissioners need your help though to get the Town of Upper Marlboro on the program. A couple of eager volunteers have already stepped forward and we would like to form a committee that can represent the Town. There will be many tourists through our town in the next few years, so the opportunity to contribute your ideas is now!

Call Town Hall at 301-627-6905 ext.3, Mon.– Fri. 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and sign up today!

aboard the HMS *Tonnant*, sharing letters from British soldiers left behind at the Battle of Bladensburg, demonstrating the kindness given to them by their American captors. Major General Robert Ross, touched by the sentiment, then ordered that Beanes be released after the impending attack on Baltimore.

By September, the British fleet reached North Point near the mouth of the Patapsco. About 4,500 troops began to march to Baltimore as warships moved toward Fort McHenry. The ships began to bombard the fort, but the Americans refused to surrender, and, after 25 hours, the British withdrew, and the fort raised its garrison flag, now known as the Star-Spangled Banner.

UPCOMING DATES TO REMEMBER

TOWN MEETING: Tuesday, October 12th, 7:30 p.m. at the Town Hall.

WORK SESSION: Tuesday, October 26th, 9:15 a.m. at the Town Hall.


COLUMBUS DAY: Monday, October 11th. Town Hall Offices will be closed. Will reopen on Tues. at 9:00 a.m.

TRASH PICK-UP FOR COLUMBUS DAY
Residential AND Bulk & Yard Waste trash will be picked up on Tuesday, October 12th.

POLICE REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2010

Town Citations: 139
State Citations: 47



In-Town Incidents:	Out-of-Town Incidents:
1 Assault	2 Assault
3 Larceny	29 Larceny
2 Warrant Service	12 Burglary
5 Vehicle Impound	11 Stolen Vehicle
1 Recovered Vehicle	

All in-Town incidents were in the downtown area and not in the residential areas.